

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

The Queen's Gambit novel written by Walter Tevis was published in 1983. Despite of written by a man and fictive, this novel has substantially issued the main character as the world's best female chess player in the story. The main character, Beth Harmon, is a child prodigy who is one of the very few women who participate in chess competitions. In Beth's environment, women live as secondary compared to men. She adapts to the environment where many men gather around to play chess or watch chess playing. Men's attitude towards Beth is not harmful yet distant and underestimates her, and a few of them will be friendly. Apart from those men, she ignores their bias. She participates in the chess tournament to prove her self-worth and seek more great challenges. Beth's winning is proof that she is a great player.

By analyzing men's and women's characters' utterances, the researcher has found the difference between these two genders in the use of women's language. They use all the features of women's language, which are hypercorrect grammar, avoidance of strong swear words, and superpolite form. The features are proof that women are more polite. When this study applies these features, the result shows that women characters in this novel are more polite and formal in using their language, rather than men characters. Within women characters' utterances, there are Beth Harmon's utterances highly participated in the use of superpolite form. Because of the findings, it is concluded that Beth is more polite than other women characters.

After Beth Harmon's politeness strategy is analyzed, there are different and similar attitudes Beth used toward male and female characters. Beth hardly uses a direct order (bald-on record) for the female characters compared to the male characters. However, the positive politeness she uses toward male and female characters is the highest among other strategies.

She uses a lot more negative politeness toward the male characters than the female characters. Beth uses off-record strategies more often with the male characters than with the female characters.

Based on the findings, Beth is more concerned about the hearer's desire for both male and female characters. She gives them positive faces to satisfy their desire, and she is not careless in maintaining their faces. She also offers and promises following the hearer's wants or followed by the hearer as if it is the hearer's wants. With the differences, toward male characters, she uses positive politeness by using presuppose on the common ground, and toward the female characters, she chooses to seek agreement.